

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOE-15 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-02 NSC-05 SOE-02

SS-15 OES-07 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11

NRC-07 /157 W

-----097930 300241Z /66

P 300150Z JUN 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2359

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 02743

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, UNGA

SUBJECT: OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE: GENERAL DEBATE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

1. SUMMARY. GENERAL DEBATE AT 21ST SESSION OF OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE (OSC) CONTINUED IN MORNING AND AFTERNOON MEETINGS ON THIRD DAY WITH STATEMENTS BY POLAND, CANADA, NETHERLANDS, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, SWEDEN, ARGENTINA, ECUADOR, UNITED KINGDOM, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, TURKEY, FRANCE AND HUNGARY.  
END SUMMARY.

2. CANADIAN PERMREP ADDRESSED CANADA'S PROPOSAL IN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE (STSC) TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE SAFETY ASPECTS OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES AND CANADA'S RECOMMENDATION THAT LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE (LSC) BEGIN A REVIEW OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS TO DETERMINE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL LEGAL MEASURES. HE WELCOMED IN PRINCIPLE UN CONFERENCE ON OUTER SPACE BUT STRESSED NEED FOR THOROUGH PLANNING AND PREPARATION OVER ADEQUATE PERIOD OF TIME -- AT LEAST TWO TO THREE YEARS AFTER GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECISION.  
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ON REMOTE SENSING, BARTON (1) STRONGLY SUPPORTED ESTABLISHMENT OF PANEL OF EXPERTS AND (2) FAVORED REGIME OF OPEN DISSEMINATION FOR PRIMARY DATA ON CONDITION DATA NOT BE USED TO DETRIMENT OF SENSED STATE, OR IN MANNER INCONSISTENT WITH SENSED STATE'S SOVEREIGNTY. ON DIRECT BROADCAST FROM SATELLITES, (DBS), BARTON STATED LACK OF PROGRESS WAS GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT.

ON DRAFT MOON TREATY, HE WELCOMED TENTATIVE AGREEMENT DEVELOPED AT 1978 LSC MEETING AS BASIS FOR CONCLUDING WORK, NOTING A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF "TECHNICAL REDRAFTING" MAY BE REQUIRED.

3. NETHERLANDS REP, VAN WOERDAN, ON NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN SPACE, SUPPORTED ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS IN STSC AND LSC STUDY PROPOSAL. ON MOON TREATY, HE STATED HIS COUNTRY COULD ACCEPT DRAFT AGREEMENT BUT IMPROVEMENT COULD BE MADE. ON DBS, VAN WOERDAN STRESSED FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION SHOULD ONLY BE RESTRICTED BY TECHNICAL NEEDS, I.E., ITU REGULATIONS. ON REMOTE SENSING, HE EMPHASIZED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WITH UN AS FOCAL POINT, WITH EACH STATE ABLE TO INTERPRET DATA ON ITS OWN COUNTRY, AND WITH DATA FREELY AVAILABLE TO ALL.

4. SWEDISH REP THUNBORG STATED HOPE THAT FINAL AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED ON MOON TREATY DURING OSC SESSION. ON NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN SPACE, HE (1) NOTED DISCUSSIONS IN STSC AND LSC ON SAFETY ASPECTS, (2) STRESSED NEED TO DEVELOP SAFETY MEASURES WITHOUT DELAY, (3) ASKED LAUNCHING STATES TO OBSERVE A MORATORIUM UNTIL SAFETY MEASURES DEVELOPED, (4) SUGGESTED WORKING OUT LEGALLY BINDING RULES CONCERNING DUTY TO INFORM COUNTRIES THAT CAN REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO SUFFER DAMAGE FROM UNCLASSIFIED

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SPACE CRAFT IMPACT, (5) SUPPORTED PROPOSALS FOR WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF ADDITIONAL LEGAL RULES, AND (6) EMPHASIZED NEED FOR INFORMATION AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO BE TAKEN CARE OF BY MEASURES OF LEGAL NATURE. THUNBORG SUPPORTED UN CONFERENCE ON OUTER SPACE, STRESSING NEEDS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BE GIVEN SPECIAL CONSIDERATION AND CAREFUL PREPARATIONS BE MADE. ON DBS, HE REGRETTED LSC'S LACK OF PROGRESS AND SUPPORTED ITS SUGGESTION THAT PRINCIPLE ON "CONSULTATION AND AGREEMENTS" REPLACE TEXTS ON PRIOR CONSENT AND DUTY AND RIGHT TO CONSULT. ON REMOTE SENSING, THUNBORG WELCOMED DISCUSSIONS AIMED AT CLARIFICATION OF TECHNICAL FACTORS AND SUPPORTED A UN COORDINATING ROLE, E.G., ESTABLISHING AN EXPERT PANEL TO FACILITATE COMPATIBILITY BETWEEN DIFFERENT SYSTEMS. HE STATED ALL COUNTRIES SHOULD SHARE BENEFITS, DATA SHOULD BE AS FREELY ACCESSIBLE AS POSSIBLE, AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SHOULD BE PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO ENABLE THEM TO INTERPRET DATA.

5. ARGENTINIAN REP STATED HE WAS GRATIFIED BY PROGRESS ON MOON TREATY AND WOULD HAVE SOME "MINOR" AMENDMENTS TO OFFER. ON REMOTE SENSING, HE NOTED THAT STATES MUST

HAVE FULL AND PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER THEIR RESOURCES.  
ON DBS, HE STRESSED RIGHT AND DUTY TO CONSULT. HE  
SUPPORTED CONVENING OF UN CONFERENCE ON OUTER SPACE  
AND CONTINUED STUDY OF GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT (GSO) BY  
STSC AND LSC.

6. ECUADORIAN REP ALBORNOY DESCRIBED HIS ALARM AT  
GROWING MILITARY USE OF SPACE, ASKING THAT KILLER  
SATELLITES SHOULD BE PROHIBITED. ON NUCLEAR POWER  
SOURCES, HE SUPPORTED ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP  
OF EXPERTS. ON MOON TREATY, HE STRESSED NEED FOR  
COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND PRINCIPLE. ON GSO, ALBORNOY

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AFFIRMED AUTHORITY OF EQUATORIAL STATES OVER THE ORBIT  
AND NOTED PRESENCE OF 108 SPACE CRAFT IN THAT  
ORBIT. HE SUPPORTED UN CONFERENCE ON OUTER SPACE,  
STRESSING THE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE CONCERNED WITH LEGAL  
QUESTIONS ON DEFINITION AND/OR DELIMITATION OF SPACE AND  
GSO. ON REMOTE SENSING, HE EMPHASIZED NEED FOR PRIOR  
CONSENT OF SENSED STATE AND STATED AN INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION TO CONTROL ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE CREATED.  
ALBORNOY REFERRED TO AND SUPPORTED FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR  
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE ORGANIZATION PUT FORTH IN  
SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT.

7. UK DEPUTY PERMREP BROWN EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT  
SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE ON MOON TREATY BUT NOTED UK  
WOULD PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT AND IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE  
TO LEAVE FINAL TEXTUAL WORK TO LSC. ON REMOTE SENSING,  
HE (1) STATED A PROPOSED UN PANEL OF EXPERTS SHOULD BE

APPOINTED BY STSC, (2) EMPHASIZED GREATEST POSSIBLE  
FREEDOM FROM RESTRICTIONS WITH DUE REGARD FOR PRINCIPLES  
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND  
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, AND (3) NOTED UK IS  
NOT CONVINCED OF NEED TO CLASSIFY DATA ON BASIS OF  
RESOLUTION. ON DEFINITION AND/OR DELIMITATION OF SPACE,  
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BROWN STRESSED THERE WAS NO NEED FOR A PRECISE DEFINITION.  
ON GSO, HE STATED IT IS INSEPARABLE FROM OUTER SPACE,  
NOT SUBJECT TO NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY OR JURISDICTION.  
ON UN CONFERENCE ON OUTER SPACE, BROWN DID NOT OPPOSE  
IT IN PRINCIPLE AND NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF UK RESERVATIONS,  
EXCEPT FINANCIAL ASPECT, HAD BEEN SATISFIED. ON NUCLEAR  
POWER SOURCES, HE (1) SUPPORTED CANADIAN PROPOSAL FOR  
STSC WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS, (2) NOTED ADDITIONAL  
HAZARDS TO LIFE AND PROPERTY ARE VERY SMALL BUT THERE  
WAS STILL A NEED FOR CAREFUL INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENT  
OF RULES IN THIS AREA, AND (3) STATED INITIAL CONSIDERA-  
TION BY LSC OF CERTAIN MATTERS, I.E., NOTIFICATION  
REQUIREMENTS, COULD PROCEED IN PARALLEL WITH STSC STUDIES.

8. FRG REP KRAUSE WAS NON-COMMITTAL ON  
MOON TREATY, SIMPLY EXPRESSING HOPE FOR PROGRESS. ON  
DBS, HE SAID FRG ADHERES FIRMLY TO PRINCIPLE OF FREE  
FLOW OF INFORMATION AND THAT NO PRINCIPLE RELATING TO  
DBS SHOULD INFRINGE RIGHT TO SEEK, DISSEMINATE OR OBTAIN  
INFORMATION. FURTHER FRG COULD NOT ACCEPT FORMULA  
REQUIRING PRIOR CONSENT FOR DIRECT BROADCASTS. ON REMOTE  
SENSING, KRAUSE SAID FRG IN PRINCIPLE ADVOCATES FREE  
DISSEMINATION OF DATA AND BELIEVES THIS CAN BE CARRIED  
OUT WITHOUT ENDANGERING SECURITY OF STATES. HE  
SUGGESTED EXAMINATION OF POSSIBLE CLASSIFICATION OF  
DATA BASED ON RESOLUTION AND URGED CARE IN FORMULATING  
PRINCIPLE SO AS NOT TO BE TOO RESTRICTIVE AND TO HELP  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. BRIEFLY ADDRESSING NUCLEAR POWER  
SOURCES IN SPACE, KRAUSE ATTRIBUTED IMPORTANCE TO SAFETY  
REQUIREMENTS AND IMPROVED NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES.

9. TURKISH REP TURKMEN WAS NON-COMMITTAL ON  
REMOTE SENSING, DEFINITION OF OUTER SPACE AND GSO. HE  
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REGRETTED LACK OF PROGRESS ON DBS AND SAID FULL ACCOUNT  
SHOULD BE TAKEN OF PRINCIPLE OF STATE SOVEREIGNTY. HE  
EXPRESSED HOPE AUSTRIAN TEXT OF MOON TREATY WOULD

ADVANCE PROGRESS AND NOTED THAT NOTION OF "COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND" HAS FOUND A PLACE IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, E.G., LAW OF THE SEA.

10. ROMANIAN DEL MANDESCU, ADDRESSING REMOTE SENSING, POINTED OUT NEED TO CLARIFY TECHNICAL ASPECTS BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO SETTLE LEGAL QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTED SECRETARIAT PREPARE SUPPLEMENTARY STUDY. CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE MEASURES IS NEEDED TO AVOID ADVANTAGE FOR DATA-RICH STATES AS OPPOSED TO DATA-POOR STATES. IN ADDITION, SOVEREIGNTY OF STATES OVER THEIR OWN NATURAL RESOURCES IMPLIES NEED FOR ACCESS TO ALL DATA WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS. HE ALSO SAID THAT OPEN-ENDED MEMBERSHIP FOR OSC WOULD FACILITATE WORK BY PROVIDING GREATER VIABILITY FOR ITS PROPOSALS. WITH RESPECT TO NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN SPACE, ROMANIA IS PREPARED TO TAKE PART IN WORK THAT MIGHT TAKE PLACE UNDER OSC.

11. FRENCH DEL REVOL REFERRED BRIEFLY TO FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE MONITORING AGENCY, SAYING GOF IS AWARE OF GREAT DIFFICULTY CREATED BY THIS PROPOSAL, BUT NOTING IT DOES OPEN UP NEW POSSIBILITIES. HE THEN ASKED FOR REVIEW OF OSC PROCEDURES AND SUGGESTED NEED TO HAVE MORE ANALYTICAL AGENDA WITH ITEMS PRESENTED IN MORE DETAIL. ON UN SPACE CONFERENCE, HE SAID SERIOUS PRERARATION WOULD BE INDISPENSABLE TO LIMIT LENSTH TO NO MORE THAN TWO WEEKS AND SINGLED OUT AGENDA AND FINANCES AS NEEDING SPECIAL STUDY. HE WAS NON-COMMITTAL ON REMOTE SENSING, EMPHASIZING NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY AND COMPROMISE. REVOL CALLED DBS A DELICATE POINT AND NOTED

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SS-15 OES-07 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11  
NRC-07 /157 W

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NEED FOR FAIR BALANCE. HE NOTED REQUIREMENT OF HUMAN  
FREEDOM BUT SAID FREE CIRCULATION OF INFORMATION WOULD  
BE MIRAGE IF IT MEAN DIRECT BROADCASTS FROM  
ADVANCED NATIONS TO LESS-DEVELOPED STATES. IN THIS  
CONNECTION, HE SAW NEED TO REFRAIN FROM DAMAGING CULTURAL  
IDENTITY OR LEGITIMATE IDEALS. ON NUCLEAR  
POWER SOURCES IN SPACE, REVOL SAID FRANCE SHARES CONCERN  
AND FAVORS SETTING UP CAREFULLY SELECTED EXPERT WORKING  
GROUP. HE ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO PRECEDENT OF  
PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES ON  
SHIPS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMITTEE MEETINGS, SPACE EXPLORATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE: GENERAL DEBATE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28  
**TAGS:** TSPA, UNGA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/87d67c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014